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*1957*

BOROUGH OF HIGHAM FERRERS



# ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the

Year 1957



P. X. BERMINGHAM, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.



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# Borough of Higham Ferrers.

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## *Members of the Highways and Sanitary Committee :*

COUNCILLOR T. C. OBERMAN (Chairman), COUNCILLORS R. W. KILSBY, N. A. PARTRIDGE, E. G. TOMPKINS, S. UPTON, D. F. E. WALKER, J. D. WILSON.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR COUNCILLOR A. E. TILLEY was an ex-officio member.

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## *Public Health Officers of the Local Authority :*

Medical Officer of Health,

P. X. BERMINGHAM, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

## *Also holds appointments of*

Medical Officer of Health, Wellingborough Urban District Council.

Medical Officer of Health, Rushden Urban District Council.

Medical Officer of Health, Irthlingborough Urban District Council.

Medical Officer of Health, Wellingborough Rural District Council.

School Medical Officer.

## *Secretary :*

MISS J. PEARSON

## *Public Health Inspector :*

W. H. PLUMMER, M.P.H.I.A., A.M.Inst.H.E.



## SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS, 1957.

Area (acres)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,945
Population 1931 (census)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,928
„ 1951 (census)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,681
„ 1957 (Registrar-General's estimate)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,690
Number of separate dwellings, 1931 (census)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	819
„ „ „ „ 1957	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,348
Rateable value, 1957	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£33,955
Product of a penny rate, 1957	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£134

Live Births.					Total	Male	Female	Rate
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	44	27	17	
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	
					44	27	17	11.92

Stillbirths.								
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	1	1	—	
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	
					1	1	—	0.27

Deaths.								
All causes	...	...	...	...	35	20	15	9.48

### Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

#### Rate per 1,000 total (Live and Still) Births.

Puerperal and post abortive sepsis	...	—	—	—	
Other puerperal causes...	...	...	...		<i>nil</i>

### Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births.

Legitimate	...	...	...	...	1	—	1	
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	
Total	...	...	...	...	1	—	1	22.72

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
„ „ Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	<i>nil</i>
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	<i>nil</i>
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	<i>nil</i>

Health Department,  
Swanspool,  
Wellingborough.

*May, 1958.*

**To the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses of the  
Borough of Higham Ferrers.**

MR. MAYOR, ALDERMEN, AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my tenth Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the Borough for the year 1957.

In Section A the chief vital statistics for the year are given and it will be seen that the birth rate of 11.92 per 1,000 of population showed a fall on the previous year when it was 16.71. The death rate 9.48 per 1,000 of population was lower than the previous year when it was 10.41. One infant death occurred which gives a rate of 22.72 per 1,000 live births. The rate for the previous year was Nil. For the second year in succession no deaths were recorded from maternal causes.

Full details of the Health Services available in the area are given in Section B and from this it will be seen that the Borough is well served.

In Section C which deals with the Sanitary Circumstances of the area a brief résumé is given of the different steps taken by the Council to deal with the grave problem of strong trade wastes in the crude sewage as it arrives at the sewage disposal works. It is to be hoped that some satisfactory method of dealing with this problem will be eventually found.

The next Section D which deals with Housing gives details of the satisfactory building programme carried out by the Borough Council since the War and also action taken with regard to the Council's five year Slum Clearance programme.

I wish to reiterate my remarks of last year in connection with Section E, that milk and ice-cream samples should be taken in the Borough as by this means only can milk and ice-cream sold in the area be kept under constant supervision.

The next Section F, is concerned with the Prevalence and Control of Infectious Diseases. It is pleasing to record the vast improvement in the numbers of infants vaccinated against Smallpox. For a number of years now I have endeavoured to bring to the notice of the Community the dangers associated with a low vaccination rate. It is to be hoped that these figures will be maintained. The Poliomyelitis vaccination scheme is progressing satisfactorily and by the time this report is presented the majority of children in the Borough should have received

this protection. A short account of an Influenza epidemic which occurred during the year is given. Measles was the most prevalent of the infectious diseases.

In conclusion I should like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Plummer for his help and assistance throughout the year and also for information supplied for this report. I should also like to thank Miss Pearson for her assistance in compiling this report and finally would like to thank the Chairman and members of the Health Committee for their help and encouragement throughout the year.

I remain,

Your obedient servant,

P. X. BERMINGHAM,  
*Medical Officer of Health.*



## SECTION A.

### NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

**Area**—The area of the Borough of Higham Ferrers is 1,945 acres.

**Population**—In the Registrar-General's returns for 1957 the population of the Borough is given as 3,690. This figure shows an increase of 40 on the previous year. The natural increase, i.e., the number of births over deaths for the year was 9.

**Deaths**—The number of deaths recorded for the district was 35. This gives a death rate of 9.48 per 1,000 of population compared with 10.41 for the previous year. The rate for England and Wales for 1957 was 11.5. Table No. 1 Section H gives a classification of the causes of death and from this it will be seen that diseases of the Heart and Circulatory system, as usual, was the greatest cause of death. Almost half the deaths came under this category. Ten deaths were due to Cancer, which is one more than last year and two of these deaths were caused by Cancer of the Lung. One death from Pulmonary Tuberculosis occurred. The following table shows a comparison between the death rates for England and Wales, the Administrative County and the Borough over the last five years :

#### Death Rates, 1953-1957

	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Higham Ferrers ...	10.69(39)	7.35(27)	12.56(46)	10.41(38)	9.48(35)
Administrative County	11.51	11.04	11.38	11.24	*
England and Wales ...	11.4	11.3	11.7	11.7	11.5

\* *not available.*

**Births**—44 births were recorded during the year. This gives a birth rate of 11.92 per 1,000 of population. This shows a considerable fall on the previous year which was 16.71. The rate for England and Wales for 1957 was 16.1. The following table shows a comparison between the rates for England and Wales, the Administrative County and the Borough over the past five years :

#### Birth Rates, 1953-1957

	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Higham Ferrers ...	15.59	14.98	13.93	16.71	11.92
Administrative County ...	16.16	16.2	15.49	16.67	*
England and Wales ...	15.5	15.2	15.0	15.7	16.1

\* *not available*

**Stillbirths**—One stillbirth was recorded which gives a rate of 0.27 per 1,000 of population. The rate for the previous year was 0.54.

**Illegitimate Births**—No illegitimate births were recorded. The rate for the previous year was 16.38 per 1,000 live births.

**Infant Mortality**—One infant death occurred which gives a rate of 22.72 per 1,000 live births. The rate for the previous year was Nil. The rate for England and Wales for 1957 was 23.0.

**Neonatal Mortality**—This sub-division of the Infant Mortality rate concerns infant deaths within 28 days of birth. No deaths occurred in this sub-division ; so for the second year in succession the rate is nil. The following table shows a comparison between the Infant Mortality rate for England and Wales, the Administrative County and the Borough over the last five years :

Death rate under one year per 1,000 live births					
	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Higham Ferrers ...	51.72(3)	18.18(1)	39.21(2)	0	22.72(1)
Administrative County ...	24.70	23.49	20.79	19.68	*
England and Wales ...	26.8	25.5	24.9	23.8	23.0

\* *not available*

**Maternal Mortality**—For the second year in succession no deaths were recorded under this heading.

## SECTION B.

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

**Laboratory Services**—The Public Health Laboratory at Northampton and the Laboratory at Kettering General Hospital with branches at the Park Hospital, Wellingborough and the Hayway, Rushden, serve the area.

**Ambulance Service**—This service is provided by the County Council. The headquarters for the area is at Wellingborough and the Borough is adequately covered.

**Nursing in the Home and Home Helps**—These services are also supplied by the County Council. The home help service is a very valuable one and often is the means of helping over a crisis in a family. With regard to old folk it is often a means of keeping them in their own homes when otherwise they would have to go to hospital.

**Treatment Centres and Clinics**—The County hold an Infant Welfare Centre at the Methodist Church Rooms, High Street, on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month in the afternoon.

**Hospital Accommodation**—The Oxford Regional Hospital Board is the responsible authority for the area and the services supplied are as follows :

General Hospitals—Northampton.

Kettering.

Gynaecological and children—Wellingborough Hospital.

Acute medical cases and skins—Highfield Hospital, Wellingborough.

Chronic Sick, the Aged and Persons in Need of Care and Attention—  
Park Hospital, Wellingborough.

Maternity—Park Hospital, Wellingborough.

Tuberculosis—Rushden House Sanatorium.

Out-patient clinics covering all the specialized branches of medicine are held at the Rushden Memorial Hospital, The Hayway, Rushden.

**National Assistance Act, 1948**—No action was necessary under Section 47 of this act.

The Higham Ferrers Old People's Welfare Committee continued with its excellent work during the year and I am grateful to the Secretary,

Mrs. W. D. White for the following information concerning activities during the year.

*Darby and Joan Club*—Activities included three outings, a theatre visit and Christmas and birthday parties.

*Membership*—There is a total of 106 members and the average weekly attendance at meetings is 76. 58 members visited Clacton under the County Holiday Scheme from the 31st May to 7th June. This was 26 more than the previous year.

*Chiropody Service*—The two services for Clinic and Home Patients function monthly. Clinic patients number 247 and Home Patients 97 and 688 treatments were given during the year.

*Handicrafts*—More old people are now participating in this scheme. Samples of the work have been shown at various places in the County and have given an incentive to other Clubs to inaugurate similar schemes.

Monthly visits are made by two members of the Committee to Park Hospital, Wellingborough, where the number of patients from the Borough varied from 7 to 9.



## SECTION C.

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

**Water Supply**—The Borough receives its water supply from the Higham Ferrers and Rushden Joint Water Board.

**Source**—There are at present two sources of supply, Sywell reservoir, which is supplied by springs and the surrounding catchment area and at Hardwater Crossing, Wollaston, where wells have been sunk in the river gravels.

The Board have under consideration the Ditchford scheme to augment the supply. This scheme consists of collecting water by means of a collector duct situated alongside Ditchford Lake and on the distal side of the lake from the River Nene. Well points would be sunk at points along this duct to the lias clay.

**Treatment**—All water is filtered and chlorinated before being pumped into the mains for distribution.

**Quality of Water**—A sample of water was sent for chemical analysis on 23rd July, 1957, and the following results obtained :

*Physical examination :*

Clear, odourless and colourless

*General Chemical examination :*

Reaction Ph 7.3

						<i>Parts per 100,000</i>
Free Carbon dioxide as CO <sub>2</sub> ...	...	...	...	...	...	0.90
Ammoniacal Nitrogen as N	...	...	...	...	...	0.0012
Albuminoid Nitrogen as N ...	...	...	...	...	...	0.0049
Hardness as CaCO <sub>3</sub> (Clark)						
Temporary	...	...	...	...	...	9.6
Permanent	...	...	...	...	...	9.8
Permanganate figure (3 hours 37°C)				...	...	0.0924
Alkalinity	...	...	...	...	...	15.5
Total Solids	...	...	...	...	...	36.9
Poisonous metal	...	...	...	...	...	absent

*Mineral Analysis :*

Calcium as Ca	...	...	...	...	...	8.9
Magnesium as Mg	...	...	...	...	...	0.65
Carbonate as Co <sub>3</sub>	...	...	...	...	...	9.0



Chloride as Cl	...	...	...	...	...	3.1
Sulphate as $\text{So}_4$	...	...	...	...	...	8.2
Nitrate as $\text{NO}_3$	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Iron as Fe	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Sodium as Na	...	...	...	...	...	4.15
Fluoride as F	...	...	...	...	...	0.07

*Bacteriological examination :*

Coliform organisms absent in 100 mls.

Number of micro-organisms per ml developing at 37°C = Nil

Number of micro-organisms per ml developing at 21°C = 4

*Remarks :*

The results obtained on the analysis of this sample indicate a fairly hard water slightly contaminated with organic matter though containing few bacteria. The fluoride content of the sample may be considered satisfactory. This water is fit for drinking purposes.

Twelve samples of water taken in the Borough during the year and sent for Bacteriological examination all proved to be very satisfactory.

**Quantity**—The total consumption of water in the Borough for the year was as follows :

Trade Purposes	...	...	15,250,000 gallons
Domestic	...	...	31,750,000 gallons
			<hr/>
Total	...	...	47,000,000 gallons
			<hr/>

The following table shows the consumption per head of population for Domestic and Municipal purposes for the period 1953 to 1957 :

			1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Domestic	...	...	18.6	19.5	20.5	21.7	23.2
Trade	...	...	11.0	13.8	11.91	9.5	11.5

The total consumption for the year showed an increase of 888,000 on the previous year.

**Piped Water supply**—The number of houses in the Borough with a piped water supply is 1,337.

**Rainfall**—Rainfall over the last five years was as follows :

			1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Rushden	...	...	18.64	28.44	18.69	22.83	23.72
Sywell	...	...	17.10	27.26	17.92	25.23	24.51

**Sewage Disposal, Drainage and Sewerage**—A description of the Sewage works was given in last year’s annual report. These works were completed in 1954 but after several months operation it was evident that little or no biological life had developed in the filters, and ponding was occurring on the surface of the filters. Investigations were carried out and it was found that a major cause of the trouble was large quantities of oil arriving at the works in the crude sewage. The effects of this was also seen in the settling tanks, channels and humus tanks. Immediate action was taken to eliminate this source of trouble and it was hoped that following this the situation would improve.

In 1955 analyses of final effluent showed that satisfactory purification was not taking place and the matter was reported to the Consultant Engineers. Further tests were recommended now that the oil problem was eliminated. Tanks were more frequently de-sludged and the filters began to show some improvement. At the end of the year chemical analysis showed an improvement but the works had not yet reached the standard of performance required. In the following year analyses of crude sewage showed it to be in the words of the Consultant Chemist “almost unbelievably strong”. The quantity of domestic sewage arriving at the works is not sufficient to dilute the very strong trade wastes which form a very high proportion of the crude sewage. Investigations of these trade wastes has been carried out and chemical analyses of each effluent made. The Health Committee has pursued this matter through all the different phases with commendable vigour and met the Trade on a number of occasions. All the facts are now in the hands of the Consultant Engineers and Consultant Chemist. A number of proposals to deal with the problem are under consideration and it is hoped that a satisfactory solution will be found.

A sample of Crude Sewage and final effluent taken on 14th May and sent for Chemical Analysis gave the following results :

<i>Expressed in parts per million</i>					<i>Crude Sewage</i>	<i>Final Effluent</i>
Suspended Solids	...	...	...	...	1036.0	282.8
Dissolved solids	...	...	...	...	3618.0	1683.0
Chloride (as Cl <sub>2</sub> )	...	...	...	...	230.0	160.0
Free Ammonia	...	...	...	...	48.0	42.0
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	...	...	12.24	8.40
Nitrate (as N <sub>2</sub> )	...	...	...	...	—	—
Nitrite	...	...	...	...	—	—
Oxygen consumed from Permanganate (4 hrs. at 80°F)					1776.0	456.0
Dissolved Oxygen absorbed in 5 days...	...	...	...	...	1000.0	410.0
P.H. Value	...	...	...	...	5.42	6.8
Strength (McGowan)	...	...	...	...	1181	288

*Remarks :* Crude Sewage—Phenols as  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{OH} = 3.0$   
Acidity (as  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ ) = 183.6

Suspended solids are about twice those of a normal strong sewage. The McGowan strength is 5 or 6 times greater than that of a normal strong domestic sewage. The sewage is markedly acid.

*Conclusion*—This is a very strong and acid mixture of trade effluents and domestic sewage. Either the trade effluents or this mixture should be brought to a P.H. of 7 to 8 before treatment. The sample is sufficiently acid to attack concrete or exposed iron parts of the sewers or sewage works.

*Remarks :* Final Effluent—Phenols as  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{OH} = 1.5$ .

Suspended solids are grossly in excess of the recommended standard of 30 p.p.m. while the 5 days B.O.D. is grossly in excess of the usual maximum of 20 p.p.m. The effluent is acid and the very high permanganate value indicates the presence of much unoxidised organic matter. The effluent has about one quarter the strength of the Higham Ferrers Crude Sewage and the strength of a normal strong crude sewage.

**Closet Accommodation**—The situation remains the same as reported last year, eight outlying premises are not connected to the sewers. All other houses in the Borough are connected to the main sewer.

**Disinfection**—Three premises were disinfected following cases of infectious diseases and 6 articles of bedding destroyed. Articles of clothing, etc., requiring disinfection are treated at the Disinfection Centre at Rushden by arrangements.

**Eradication of Bed Bugs**—No action was necessary during the year.

**Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949**—The following is a summary of the work carried out during the year :

Sewage works	...	...	...	6 treatments
Refuse Tip	...	...	...	6 treatments
Business premises	...	...	...	4 treatments
Private premises	...	...	...	12 treatments, involving 18 houses
Mice	...	...	...	6 treatments, private dwellings

**Movable Dwellings**—The situation remains unchanged. One site is licensed for six caravans and a further licence was issued for one caravan on a small holding.

Once again it was found necessary to take informal action with regard to the parking of caravans on an unlicensed site. The owner has now agreed to co-operate and not allow any further caravans on the site.



## SECTION D.

### HOUSING.

The erection of 22 houses and six flats was completed during the year, and brought to a close the present building programme. A site exists for a further 50 dwellings. The need now is mainly for old people's dwellings and the Council have under consideration the development of a site near the centre of the town for about 12 bungalows. Nine houses in Refuge Terrace Clearance area have been demolished and the occupiers rehoused. Three houses were closed, two families from these dwellings were re-housed by the Council and the third tenant obtained accommodation for himself. One of these houses has since been demolished. Confirmation of Clearance Orders have been received in respect of the following Clearance Areas :

Northampton Road (No. 2) Clearance Area, 1956—3 dwellings and appurtenances.

Northampton Road (No. 3) Clearance Area, 1956—3 dwellings and appurtenances.

Warmond's Hill (No. 2) Clearance Area, 1956—6 dwellings and appurtenances.

Bedford Road Clearance Area, 1956—4 dwellings and appurtenances.

During the year five private houses were completed. 267 Council houses have been built since the War and 77 private houses.

On 31st December, 1957, there were 102 applicants for Council houses compared with 165 at the end of the previous year.

Details concerning these applicants are as follows :

(a)	Resident in Higham Ferrers and in apartments or lodgings ...	7
(b)	Resident in Higham Ferrers and on slum clearance list ...	53
(c)	Resident in Higham Ferrers and having a house ...	20
(d)	Non Residents of Borough and in apartments or lodgings ...	2
(e)	Non Residents of Borough and having a house ...	13
(f)	Council house tenants of other authorities ...	7
		<hr/> 102 <hr/>

Percentages in the different categories are as follows :

(a) 7.0%; (b) 53.0%; (c) 20.0%; (d) 2.0%; (e) 13.0%; (f) 7.0%.

From an analysis of this list it will be seen that the applicants in (a) and (b) are those which concern the Council most and these applicants number 60.

## SECTION E.

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

**Milk and Dairies**—There is no change in the situation since the last report. This Council is responsible for distribution of milk in the Borough and I am still of the opinion that samples should be taken in the area.

Licences held in the Borough are as follows :

- 3 Supplementary licences to use special designation T.T. Milk.
- 2 Supplementary licences to use special designation Pasteurised Milk.
- 1 Dealer's Licence to use special designation Pasteurised Milk.
- 1 Supplementary licence to use special designation sterilised milk.

**Food Premises**—Table No. 2 in Section H gives a list of visits made by the Public Health Inspector during the year, and also the number of food premises in the Borough. Unsound food surrendered :

Corned Beef	...	...	...	...	6 lbs.
Tinned Peas	...	...	...	...	21 lbs.
Tinned Fruit (mixed)	...	...	...	...	3 lbs. 6 ozs.

**Ice-cream**—Ten premises in the Borough are registered to sell ice-cream. No ice-cream is manufactured in Higham, all ice-cream sold is pre-packed. It is my opinion that samples should be taken in the area.

**Slaughterhouses**—There are no licensed slaughterhouses in the area. Beasts slaughtered for human consumption in neighbouring abattoirs are all inspected before being passed as fit for human consumption.



## SECTION F.

### PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

**Small Pox**—No cases.

**Vaccination**—The following are the vaccination figures for 1957 :

	<i>Under 1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2-4</i>	<i>5-14</i>	<i>15 yrs. or over</i>	<i>Total</i>
Primary ...	50	—	3	5	7	65
Re-vaccination ...	—	—	—	5	18	23
						<hr/> 88 <hr/>

The figures for the previous year were :

	<i>Under 1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2-4</i>	<i>5-14</i>	<i>15 yrs. or over</i>	<i>Total</i>
Primary ...	23	—	3	4	3	33
Re-vaccination ...	—	—	—	1	5	6
						<hr/> 39 <hr/>

The vaccination figures for the year are very satisfactory, and it is to be hoped that these figures will be maintained at a high level from now on.

**Diphtheria**—It is now 13 years since a case of Diphtheria was notified in the Borough.

**Diphtheria Immunisation**—The following table shows the number of children who had completed a full course of immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1957 :

Age at 31.12.57 ... <i>i.e.</i> Born in Year ...	Under					5 to 9 1948- 1952	10 to 14 1943- 1947	Total under 15
	1 1957	1 1956	2 1955	3 1954	4 1953			
Number Immunised	5	37	43	38	48	267	290	728

The following immunisations were carried out during the year :

	<i>Under</i>							<i>Total</i>	<i>Booster</i>
	1	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14		
Diphtheria									
Immunisation only	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Combined Diphtheria & Whooping Cough	35	6	11	—	—	1	—	53	6
Totals	35	6	11	—	—	1	—	53	10

**Pneumonia**—No cases were notified for the second year in succession. No deaths were attributed to this cause.

**Erysipelas**—One case was notified. There was also one case last year.

**Measles**—99 cases of measles were notified compared with five in the previous year. The majority of cases occurred in May and June with a sharp fall in July. Cases were of a fairly mild variety and none was removed to hospital.

**Influenza**—One death was recorded from Influenza. This is the first death from this cause for three years. It will be remembered that in the latter quarter of the year an Influenza epidemic affected the area. The approach of this Asian type of Influenza was heralded by the National press and Television. It was with some apprehension that its arrival was awaited by the community but actually it was not as severe as the common type of Influenza experienced in this country. The pattern of the epidemic was similar to that experienced in other parts of the country, school children being affected first and later adults. The majority of cases ran a mild course of 4 to 5 days but the complication of Influenzal-pneumonia had to be watched for carefully. The onset of this when it occurred was sudden, physical signs appearing in a very short time. By the end of the year the epidemic had passed.

**Whooping Cough**—No cases occurred. In the previous year there were seven cases.

**Ophthalmia Neonatorum**—No cases occurred.

**Poliomyelitis**—No cases were notified. One suspicious case was seen but on investigation poliomyelitis was excluded. The Borough has been free of this disease now for four years.

**Poliomyelitis Vaccination**—Vaccination against poliomyelitis was continued during the year and as there was not sufficient British vaccine

the use of Salk vaccine was introduced. The following vaccinations were carried out :

<i>Born in</i>														
<i>Year</i>	1957	56	55	54	53	52	51	50	49	48	47	<i>Over 15</i>	<i>Total</i>	
	—	—	—	10	17	20	24	28	28	29	41	4	197	

Already this year the figures have greatly increased.

**Tuberculosis**—One new case of Pulmonary Tuberculosis was notified. There were two cases in the previous year. One death from this disease occurred during the year. One case was admitted to Rushden House Sanatorium and one discharged during the period. The following table shows the number of new cases and deaths from Tuberculosis over the last 8 years :

	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
New cases	4 (3 M)	1 (M)	3 (1 M)	<i>nil</i>	4 (1 M)	<i>nil</i>	2 (F)	1 (M)
Deaths	1 (M)	1 (M)	1 (M)	1 (M)	<i>nil</i>	<i>nil</i>	<i>nil</i>	1 (F)

The one death which occurred is the first for three years.

The number of cases of Tuberculosis on the register at the end of the year was as follows :

	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>Total</i>
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ... ..	11	13	24
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis ... ..	2	1	3

The Mass Radiography Unit visited the Borough between 31st December, 1956, and 3rd January, 1957, and the following is a summary of the survey :

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
No. of miniature films taken ... ..	1,130	796	1,926
No. recalled for large film ... ..	38	29	67
No. recalled for clinical examination ... ..	9	4	13
No. referred to chest clinic ... ..	6	1	7
No. previously examined by M.M.R. ... ..	1,007	635	1,642
No. not previously examined by M.M.R. ... ..	123	161	284

Results of cases referred to Chest Clinic :

Active Pulmonary Tuberculosis requiring immediate treatment ... ..	2	1	3
(Two had positive sputum			
Two had previous satisfactory M.M.R. examination)			

Non-Tuberculous Conditions :

Rib abnormality ... ..	1	—	1
Pneumonitis ... ..	1	—	1
Bronchiectasis ... ..	1	—	1
Bronchial carcinoma... ..	1	—	1
	6	1	7

Cases examined by the Medical Director but  
not referred to Chest Clinic :

Inactive Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	—	1	1
Bronchiectasis	...	...	...	—	1
Acquired cardiac abnormality	...	...	3	1	4
				3	6

The results show that out of 1,926 persons examined three cases of active Pulmonary Tuberculosis were discovered which gives a rate of 1.56 per thousand.

The After-Care Committee continues to carry out its good work in the area.

**Dysentery**—No cases were notified. There was one case in the previous year.

**Food Poisoning**—One case was notified. On investigation it was discovered that this case had been contracted in Scotland and symptoms appeared when on a visit to the Borough. There were no cases in the previous year.



## SECTION G.

### FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

There are 43 factories registered in the Borough which is two less than last year.

37 inspections were carried out during the year. Five defects were discovered in the course of these inspections and all were remedied.

In factories where mechanical power is not used the provision with regard to cleanliness, temperature, ventilation, drainage of floors and numbers employed, no complaints were received.

The numbers of Outworkers in the August list was 10.

No complaints were received concerning the carrying out of Outwork (S.110 & 111).



# SECTION H.

## STATISTICAL TABLES, 1957.

TABLE No. 1.

### CAUSES OF DEATH, 1957.

<i>Causes of Death</i>						<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
6.	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
8.	Measles	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	...	4	2	6
15.	Leukæmia, aleukæmia	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
16.	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	...	3	4	7
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
20.	Other heart disease	...	...	...	...	4	4	8
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
22.	Influenza	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
31.	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	...	2	1	3
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
34.	All other accidents	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
35.	Suicide	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
ALL CAUSES						20	15	35

TABLE No. 2.

## SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS MADE BY THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Housing						
Complaints received ...	...	...	...	...	...	83
Inspections under the Public Health Acts :						
(a) Complaints ...	...	...	...	...	...	45
(b) Infectious diseases ...	...	...	...	...	...	8
(c) Notice from builders ...	...	...	...	...	...	20
(d) Others ...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Re-inspections under the Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	...	54
Inspections under the Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	63
Visits re housing applications	...	...	...	...	...	20
Visits re infectious diseases ...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Meat and Food						
Visits to foodshops ...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Visits to bakehouses ...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Factories						
Visits to factories with mechanical power	...	...	...	...	...	90
Visits to other factories	...	...	...	...	...	5
Miscellaneous						
Visits re Land Charges Act ...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Visits under Prevention of Damage by Pests Act	...	...	...	...	...	75
Visits to refuse tip ...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Visits to sewage works	...	...	...	...	...	70
Miscellaneous visits ...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Visits for interviews ...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Interviews at office ...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Water tests of drains carried out ...	...	...	...	...	...	34
Visits re applications for improvements grants	...	...	...	...	...	8
Revisits re improvement grants	...	...	...	...	...	20
Visits to caravan sites, 7 movable dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	3
Keeping of animals ...	...	...	...	...	...	0

## DEFECTS REMEDIED DURING THE YEAR

Housing						
Repairs to water services ...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Rainwater gutters and/or downpipes renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	10
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	10
Drains cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	18
Floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	8
Additional W.C's. provided	...	...	...	...	...	2
Drains repaired or altered	...	...	...	...	...	3
Yard paving repaired	...	...	...	...	...	6
Ceilings repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	6
Bathrooms provided	...	...	...	...	...	6
Lavatory basins provided	...	...	...	...	...	18
Walls repaired internally	...	...	...	...	...	10
Flushing cisterns to W.C's. repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	6
Hot water systems provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	25
Rooms redecorated	...	...	...	...	...	0
Nuisances from animals abated	...	...	...	...	...	0
Dampness to walls remedied	...	...	...	...	...	6
W.C. pans renewed	...	...	...	...	...	8
Sink wastepipes renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	6
Dustbins provided	...	...	...	...	...	20
Trapdoors provided	...	...	...	...	...	0
Doors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	20
Windows repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	12
Fireplaces renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	6
Staircases repaired	...	...	...	...	...	0

TABLE NO. 2—*continued.*

Skirting boards repaired	...	...	...	...	...	10
Walls repaired externally	...	...	...	...	...	6
Foodstores provided	...	...	...	...	...	3
Sinks repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	6
Manholes constructed	...	...	...	...	...	2
Painting (externally)	...	...	...	...	...	0
Chimney stacks repaired	...	...	...	...	...	4
Sink waste channels repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	8
<b>Notices Served</b>						
Public Health Act (Informal)	...	...	...	...	...	31
Factories Act, 1937	...	...	...	...	...	4
<b>Infectious Diseases</b>						
Rooms disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	6
Articles of bedding destroyed	...	...	...	...	...	6
<b>Pet Animal Act, 1951</b>						
Licences issued	...	...	...	...	...	1
<b>Food Premises in the Borough</b>						
Grocery and Provisions	...	...	...	...	...	6
General shops	...	...	...	...	...	11
Fish shops (wet and fried)	...	...	...	...	...	1
Butchers' shops	...	...	...	...	...	2
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	2
Cake shops	...	...	...	...	...	1
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	2
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	0
Restaurants	...	...	...	...	...	2
Hotels	...	...	...	...	...	2
Licensed premises	...	...	...	...	...	5
Clubs	...	...	...	...	...	3
<b>Premises registered under the Food and Drugs Act</b>						
For the sale of ice-cream	...	...	...	...	...	10
For the manufacture of sausages, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	3

TABLE No. 3.

**MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES**  
*(Other than Tuberculosis) 1957.*

<i>Disease</i>	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	TOTALS
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Influenza ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	2	2	4	1	39	45	4	—	2	—	—	—	99
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Dysentery ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	3	2	5	1	39	45	4	1	2	—	—	—	102



TABLE NO. 4.

AGE INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES  
(Other than Tuberculosis) 1957

<i>Disease</i>	—1	—2	—3	—4	—5	—10	—15	—20	—35	—45	—65	65+	<i>All Ages</i>	<i>Removed to Hospital</i>	<i>Deaths</i>
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Pneumonia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	3	11	8	15	20	41	—	1	—	—	—	—	99	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Dysentery ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	4	11	8	15	21	41	—	1	—	1	—	—	102	—	—

TABLE NO. 5.

NEW CASES OF AND DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS, 1957.

<i>Age Periods</i>	<i>New Cases</i>				<i>Deaths</i>			
	<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non-respiratory</i>		<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non-respiratory</i>	
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
— 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
— 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—35	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
—45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—55	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65+	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—



## VITAL STATISTICS DURING 1957 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year	Estimated Population	Births		Deaths			
		No.	Rate	Under One Year		All Ages	
		No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate
1891	1,810	—	—	—	—	—	—
1892	1,810	51	28.1	7	137.0	27	14.9
1893	2,000	54	27.0	6	111.0	34	17.0
1894	2,000	65	32.5	12	184.0	37	18.5
1895	2,000	64	32.0	3	47.0	30	15.0
1896	2,000	56	28.0	6	107.0	22	11.0
1897	2,000	67	33.5	5	75.0	31	15.5
1898	2,000	74	37.0	9	121.0	27	13.5
1899	2,500	62	24.8	11	177.0	25	10.0
1900	2,540	69	27.1	9	130.0	31	12.2
1901	2,540	79	31.1	3	37.9	26	10.2
1902	2,540	56	22.0	3	53.5	26	10.2
1903	2,540	59	23.2	6	101.7	27	10.6
1904	2,540	61	24.0	4	65.6	22	8.6
1905	2,794	48	17.2	5	104.1	28	9.6
1906	2,884	49	16.9	3	61.2	26	8.6
1907	2,920	51	17.4	5	98.0	25	7.8
1908	2,920	63	21.5	2	31.7	29	9.0
1909	2,920	56	19.1	5	89.3	27	9.2
1910	2,920	42	14.3	1	23.8	24	8.2
1911	2,726	53	19.4	2	37.7	25	9.1
1912	2,726	37	13.5	3	81.0	21	7.7
1913	2,776	56	20.1	5	89.2	34	12.2
1914	2,776	53	19.0	3	56.8	28	10.0
1915	2,849	51	18.3	4	78.4	37	12.9
1916	2,769	46	15.2	6	130.4	31	11.1
1917	2,838	45	15.8	3	66.6	30	11.7
1918	2,987	36	12.0	3	83.3	38	14.2
1919	2,863	44	14.7	2	45.5	28	9.7
1920	2,977	69	23.1	9	130.4	35	11.7
1921	2,912	47	16.1	2	42.5	32	10.9
1922	2,929	40	13.6	5	125.0	27	9.2
1923	2,944	54	18.3	2	37.0	36	12.2
1924	2,965	42	14.1	2	47.6	36	12.1
1925	2,998	35	11.6	3	85.7	17	5.6
1926	3,091	37	11.9	3	81.0	23	7.4
1927	3,120	39	12.1	6	153.0	43	13.7
1928	3,208	43	13.0	0	0.0	27	8.4
1929	3,054	43	14.7	3	69.0	23	7.3
1930	3,054	41	13.4	2	48.7	31	10.1
1931	2,950	30	10.1	2	66.0	32	10.8
1932	2,938	25	8.5	2	80.0	39	13.2
1933	2,944	42	14.2	1	23.8	33	11.2
1934	2,946	28	9.5	1	35.0	28	9.5
1935	2,987	31	10.4	0	0.0	37	12.4
1936	3,003	43	14.3	1	23.2	30	10.0
1937	3,076	49	15.9	2	40.8	34	11.0
1938	3,120	36	11.5	1	27.7	35	11.2
1939	3,145	27	8.6	0	0.0	53	16.5
1940	3,172	40	12.6	0	0.0	39	12.3
1941	3,690	45	12.5	1	22.2	42	11.6
1942	3,528	55	15.5	2	36.3	28	7.9
1943	3,366	52	15.4	1	19.2	39	11.3
1944	3,298	60	18.2	1	16.7	36	10.9
1945	3,268	71	21.7	2	28.2	46	14.1
1946	3,406	62	18.2	1	16.12	45	13.21
1947	3,528	80	22.67	3	37.50	48	13.60
1948	3,599	67	18.61	0	0.0	34	9.44
1949	3,644	60	16.46	2	33.33	40	10.97
1950	3,645	63	17.28	1	15.87	51	13.99
1951	3,661	51	13.93	0	0.0	40	10.92
1952	3,661	65	17.75	1	15.38	32	8.74
1953	3,648	58	15.89	3	51.72	39	10.69
1954	3,670	55	14.98	1	18.18	27	7.35
1955	3,660	51	13.93	2	39.21	46	12.56
1956	3,650	61	16.71	0	0.0	38	10.41
1957	3,690	44	11.92	1	22.72	35	9.48

TABLE No. 7.

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937 and 1948  
for the year, 1957.

## PART I OF THE ACT

1.—**Inspections** for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Number of</i>		
		<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Written notices</i>	<i>Occupiers prosecuted</i>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ... ..	3	3	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ... ..	34	30	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	6	4	—	—
TOTAL ...	43	37	—	—

2.—Cases in which **defects** were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found			Number of cases in which pro- secutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector By H.M. Inspector	
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) :				
(a) insufficient ... ..	1	1	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	4	4	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not in- cluding offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ... ..	5	5	—	—

## PART VIII OF THE ACT

**Outwork** (Sections 110 and 111)

<i>Nature of Work</i>	<i>Section 110</i>			<i>Section 111</i>		
	<i>No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c)</i>	<i>No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council</i>	<i>No. of prosecu- tions for failure to supply lists</i>	<i>No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises</i>	<i>Notices served</i>	<i>Prosecu- tions</i>
Wearing Apparel-making	10	—	—	—	—	—
Stuffed toys ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	10	—	—	—	—	—



